

Message Text

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ACTION ITFE-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05

VOE-00 SCA-01 INSE-00 L-03 H-02 PM-03 INR-07 DODE-00

HEW-06 SP-02 INRE-00 IO-10 EUR-12 EB-07 CIAE-00 SY-05

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O 201056Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6197

UNCLAS BANGKOK 11912

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, CVIS

SUBJ: FINAL PROCESSING AND ONWARD TRANSPORTATION OF INDOCHINESE
REFUGEES AUTHORIZED PAROLE ENTRY INTO U.S.

REF: A. STATE 133652: B. STATE 142536: C. BANGKOK 11344

1. EMBASSY ESTIMATES THAT UNDER CURRENT PAROLE AUTHORITY, WE WILL HAVE TO PROCESS APPROXIMATELY 2,500-3,000 INDIVIDUAL KHMER AND VIETNAMESE. IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO TREAT EACH OF THESE ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS. REFTEL C AND OTHER MESSAGES ON INDIVIDUAL CASES REFER TO RTG EXTREME RELUCTANCE RELEASE REFUGEES WHO ENTERED THAILAND ILLEGALLY AND ARE HELD IN THAI-ADMINISTERED REFUGEE CAMPS, NEED FOR INDIVIDUAL DIPLOMATIC NOTES WHICH THEREAFTER MUST PASS THROUGH SUCCESSION RTG OFFICES, AND ABSOLUTE GUARANTEE THAT USG WILL REPEAT WILL REMOVE REFUGEE IN QUESTION FROM THAILAND. THIS APPLIES NOT ONLY TO THOSE REFUGEES IN NEED OF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR PRE-PAROLE PROCESSING BUT ALSO THOSE REFUGEES WHO ARE BENEFICIARIES OF APPROVED IMMIGRANT PETITIONS AND WHO COULD BE PROCESSED FOR IMMIGRANT VISAS PROVIDED THEY COULD OBTAIN RELEASE FROM CAMPS AND PERMISSION TO REMAIN "OUT OF CONTROLLED QUARTERS" IN BANGKOK FOR WEEK TO TEN DAYS NEEDED TO COMPLETE VISA PROCESSING AND ONWARD TRANSPORTATION.

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2. MORE DIFFICULT EVEN IS ONWARD TRAVEL VIA COMMERCIAL CARRIER

FROM COMMERCIAL PORT OF EXIT FOR THOSE REFUGEES IN POSSESSION EITHER PAROLE DOCUMENTATION OR IMMIGRANT VISAS BUT WHO LACK VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENTS. RTG REQUIRES ALL ALIENS ENTERING OR DEPARTING THAILAND AT COMMERCIAL PORTS TO POSSESS VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENTS AND UNWILLING AGREE TO ANY BLANKET WAIVER FOR REFUGEES DESPITE THEIR DOCUMENTED ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY INTO U.S. OR OTHER THIRD COUNTRY. EVEN WITH VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENT ISSUED AFTER REFUGEE'S ARRIVAL IN U.S., FOR EXAMPLE ICRC DOCUMENTS, FORMER KHMER LAISSEZ-PASSEES, ETC., REFUGEE MAY BE SUBJECT TO FINE/DETENTION FOR ILLEGAL ENTRY UNLESS STATUS IN THAILAND WAS REGULARIZED SHORTLY AFTER ENTRY AS WAS DONE IN CASES OF CAMBODIAN REFUGEES EVACUATED BY USG.

3. IN LIGHT PROBLEMS DISCUSSED PARAGRAPH 1, EMBASSY PLANS TO ASSEMBLE MAJORITY OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES AUTHORIZED PAROLE, I.E., THOSE FITTING CATEGORIES DESCRIBED REFTEL A, AT UTAPAO (RTG WILL AGREE TO SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURES FOR RELEASE FROM THEIR REFUGEE CAMPS TO ANOTHER "CONTROLLED SITE") WHERE MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS CAN BE CONDUCTED, PAROLE LETTERS ISSUED, AND PERSONS CAN AWAIT ONWARD TRANSPORTATION.

4. TO OVERCOME DIFFICULTIES NOTED PARAGRAPH 2, EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT NEGOTIATE TRANSPORTATION BY CHARTER FLIGHTS FROM UTAPAO AND THROUGH AUSPICES APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (EMBASSY HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED MATTER WITH ICEM WHO WILL APPROACH THEIR HEADQUARTERS) OR MILITARY FLIGHTS FROM UTAPAO TO U.S. PORT OF ENTRY.

5. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS PRIORITY IN TRAVEL BE GIVEN THOSE REFUGEES WITH SPONSORS OR RESOURCES SUFFICIENT FOR ONWARD TRAVEL AND RESETTLEMENT AFTER ARRIVAL AT PORT OF ENTRY AND THUS NOT IN NEED OF SPACE AT RECEPTION CENTER.

6. REQUEST SOONEST DEPARTMENT CONCURRENCE ABOVE PROPOSALS AND WHAT ARRANGEMENTS DEPARTMENT CAN MAKE FOR EITHER MILITARY OR CHARTER FLIGHTS THROUGH ICEM OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION. WHITEHOUSE

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Disposition Comment:
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